

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 18, with the following amended paragraph:

The disclosure of U.S. Patent No. 6,087,163 ~~U.S. application no. 08/796,792~~ is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 13, line 19, with the following amended paragraph:

The use of the above-described polypeptide and nucleic acid reagents for vaccination also provides for highly specific and effective immunization. Since the virulent *M. tuberculosis* polypeptides encoded by genes absent from avirulent BCG are likely to be mediators of virulence, immunity directed to them can be especially potent in terms of protective capacity. Where vaccination is performed with nucleic acids both *in vivo* and *ex vivo* methods can be used. *In vivo* methods involve administration of the nucleic acids themselves to the subject and *ex vivo* methods involve obtaining cells (e.g., bone marrow cells or fibroblasts) from the subject, transducing the cells with the nucleic acids, preferably selecting or enriching for successfully transduced cells, and administering the transduced cells to the subject. Alternatively, the cells that are transduced and administered to the subject can be derived from another subject. Methods of vaccination and diagnosis are described in greater detail in U.S. ~~application no. 08/796,792~~ Patent No. 6,087,163, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.